

A FLOW ANALYSIS SYSTEM AND METHOD

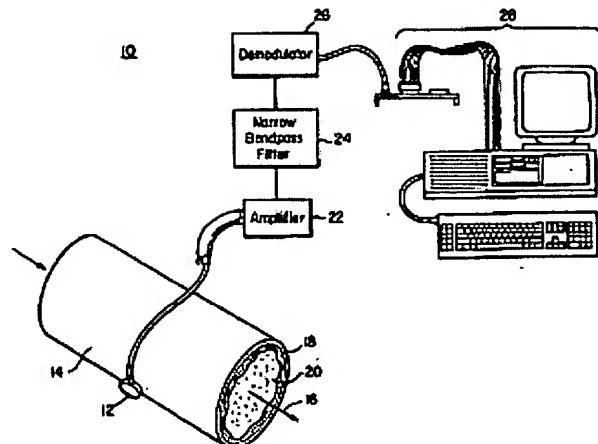
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G01N29/42; G01N29/44N; G01N29/48
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Cited documents:

- US5600073
- US3392572
- US4576036
- US4688418
- US5390547

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A non-invasive flow analysis system (10) and method wherein a sensor (12), such as an acoustic sensor, is coupled to a conduit (14) for transmitting a signal which varies depending on the characteristics of the flow in the conduit (14). The signal is amplified and there is a filter (24), responsive to the sensor signal, and tuned to pass a narrow band of frequencies proximate the resonant frequency of the sensor. A demodulator (26) generates an amplitude envelope of the filtered signal and a number of flow indicator quantities are calculated based on variations in amplitude of the amplitude envelope. A neural network, or its equivalent, is then used to determine the flow rate in the conduit based on the flow indicator quantities.



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